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Zohran Mamdani's win:
A vote against racism, a mandate for class struggle

By Sharon Black

Democratic Socialist Zohran Mamdani's resounding victory for New York City mayor against billionaire-backed Andrew Cuomo was a vote against racism – and a direct rebuke to Trump's "Make America White Again."

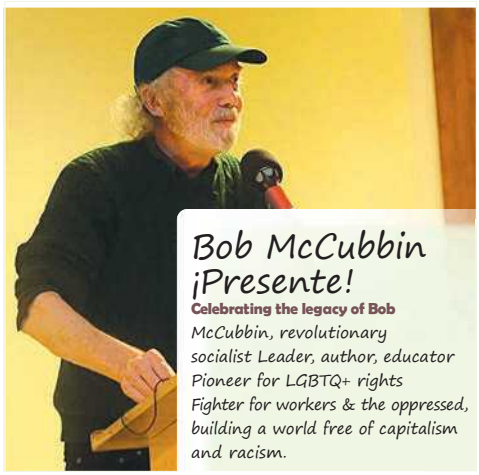
The unabated Islamophobia in the campaign's final days was aimed at whipping up racism and division. Cuomo joined right-wing shock jocks who claimed Mamdani would "cheer for another Sept. 11." Trump called him a "communist," threatened to deport him – though Mamdani is a U.S. citizen born in Uganda to South Asian parents – and vowed to cut off federal funds to a Mamdani-led city.

The electoral map tells the story. The wealthiest neighborhoods – the Upper East Side, TriBeCa, and longtime racist enclaves like Howard Beach – voted for Cuomo. But from Harlem and Washington Heights to the South Bronx, Jackson Heights, and the Black and Caribbean heart of Central Brooklyn, the working-class vote for Mamdani was overwhelming.

Cuomo, who made $5 million last year and lives in Sutton Place, carried his wealthy

Continued on page 12

Mass demonstrations against the U.S.-backed genocide in Gaza helped fuel Mamdani's campaign, galvanizing Muslim and working-class voters across the city.



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Pioneer for LGBTQ+ rights
Fighter for workers & the oppressed,
building a world free of capitalism and racism.

MARCH FOR MUMIA
UNITE TO FREE MUMIA
& ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS
NOV 28TH - DEC 9TH
PHILADELPHIA TO FRACKVILLE, PA
MARCH TO END ELDER ABUSE
MARCH TO END MEDICAL NEGLECT
MARCH TO FREE MUMIA

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Teamsters rank-and-file challenge alliance with Trump

NYC tenants fight land grab

SNAP funds vanish

The system protects Boeing

Nat'l Day Of Mourning 2025

Kaepernick to Bad Bunny: NFL racism

SNAP funds vanish

The Global Class War today

Does capitalism work? Depends who you ask

Gaza ceasefire isn't

Pentagon 'decapitation strikes'

Listen to **Maduro**

National Network on Cuba affirms solidarity action

Erasing **Black History**: From Florida to the Netherlands

Mamdani's win shows the tide is turning against Zionism

By Lev Koufax

In the days before New Yorkers went to the polls, Wall Street billionaires and their media unleashed a barrage of lies, branding Zohran Mamdani a "Jew-hater." It was a lie designed to destroy his campaign. And it didn't work.

Over 1,100 Rabbis signed a petition labeling Zohran Mamdani an enemy of the Jewish people. According to these rabbis, Mamdani opposes Jewish self-determination simply because he refuses to support a U.S.-backed apartheid terror state.

Liel Leibovitz, editor of Tablet magazine, went so far as to declare that "any congregation that will accept Zohran Mamdani over Yom Kippur is not a Jewish congregation." Such a statement is stunningly hateful – reducing the entirety of Judaism to the defense of genocide. No Jewish congregation worth its name would turn away a person based on faith, nationality, or political views.

Fascist-in-chief Donald Trump also jumped into the fray over Mamdani's supposed "antisemitism." True to form, Trump frothed, "Any Jewish person that votes for Zohran Mamdani, a proven and self-professed JEW HATER, is a stupid person!!!" This from the same man who claimed there were "fine people on both sides" when neo-Nazis marched in Charlottesville. For what it's worth, the Jewish author of this article prefers to seek insight on antisemitism from someone other than a proven antisemite and demagogue.

Even with the massive propaganda blitz against him, Zohran Mamdani – a pro-Palestine, Muslim Democratic Socialist – won 33% of the Jewish vote in New York City. It's true that Andrew Cuomo carried the majority of the still Zionist-leaning community with about 60%. But the fact that Mamdani won a third of the Jewish vote, despite the lies and hysteria, reveals deep cracks in the imperialist narrative surrounding "Israel."

New York City mayoral candidate Zohran Mamdani and NYC Comptroller Brad Lander speak during the Jews For Racial And Economic Justice's Mazals Gala on Sept. 10.

The fact that the Jewish community may be more divided on Mamdani – and, consequently, on Zionism – than the mainstream led us to believe became clear as the election drew closer. In response to the landslide of antisemitism accusations against the now soon-to-be Mayor Mamdani, a multitude of progressive Jewish organizations and individuals spoke out. Hundreds of rabbis and everyday Jewish people signed their own letter denouncing the attacks on Mamdani and supporting his stand against Zionist genocide.

The entire saga once again shows that the imperialist war drive to prop up "Israel" as the U.S. attack dog of West Asia has nothing to do with Judaism – and everything to do with profit. The working-class power behind Mamdani's campaign represents a real opportunity to deepen revolutionary consciousness and expose the ruling class's lies – lies like the claim that U.S. funding of a genocidal "Israel" somehow defends Jewish self-determination.

Mamdani's victory presents a powerful opportunity for revolutionary-minded Jews to continue advancing the struggle for a broader revolution – one capable of toppling U.S. imperialism and the Zionist terror project it sustains. That same opportunity exists within the wider working-class movement. Now is the time to push revolutionary socialism and anti-imperialism more boldly than ever.

Lev Koufax is an anti-Zionist Jewish activist.

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Teamsters at a crossroads:
Rank-and-file challenge takes on O'Brien's alliance with Trump

By Lallan Schoenstein

The upcoming election for the leadership of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters – one of the largest and most powerful unions in the United States – could reshape the direction of the labor movement itself.

In November 2026, 1.3 million Teamsters will choose between incumbent General President Sean O'Brien and Richard Hooker Jr., a Philadelphia Teamsters leader who has become a leading critic of the current administration.

This election is about more than who sits at the top. It's a fight over the union's soul – whether it will stand with the working class or side with the bosses and politicians who exploit it.

Teamster rank and file leader Richard Hooker, center, speaking in Philadelphia.

A dangerous political turn

Under O'Brien, the Teamsters have drifted sharply to the right.

Once calling Donald Trump "our enemy," O'Brien now praises him as "one tough SOB." He met privately with the billionaire politician and even spoke at the 2024 Republican National Convention.

Hooker warns that this alignment "puts every working-class person in jeopardy."

Trump, he points out, is a union buster who has cut jobs, eliminated labor protections, and attacked workers' rights. He weakened the National Labor Relations Board and OSHA, and cheers on union-busting bosses.

O'Brien, who rose to power in 2021 as a self-styled reformer after the Hoffa era, has since courted the same corporate and right-wing forces he once criticized. His administration has shifted Teamsters' political spending toward corporate-aligned and Republican-backed PACs.

To Hooker and many activists, this weakens labor solidarity and distances the union from the broader working-class movement.

Breaking the system of fear

The debate is also about democracy inside the union itself.

Hooker says the Teamsters have long been ruled by "a system of fear, bullying, retaliation, and intimidation" – a system that mirrors the boss's own tactics. He accuses O'Brien of acting "like a king who expects blind loyalty."

Hooker argues that members, not top officials, should set the union's direction – from contract enforcement to grievance procedures to leadership accountability. His message is simple: the rank and file should have the power to decide how their union is run.

Fighting for jobs, pensions, and the future

At UPS – the largest Teamster employer – workers say the grievance process is slow and unclear. Hooker calls for transparency, direct communication, and stronger representation against management pressure.

Automation is another looming challenge. As logistics corporations rush to bring in robotics and artificial intelligence, thousands of Teamster jobs – and pension contributions – are at risk.

Hooker says the union must anticipate these changes and fight to protect wages, hours, and job security as technology transforms the industry.

A new chapter in Teamsters' history

If elected, Richard Hooker Jr. would become the first Black president of the Teamsters – a historic breakthrough in a union whose membership includes large numbers of Black and Brown workers, even though its leadership remains overwhelmingly white.

Hooker's campaign is more than a personal bid for office. It's part of a growing rank-and-file movement to make the Teamsters once again a fighting union rooted in its diverse membership.

Which path forward?

The 2026 election offers a clear choice.

O'Brien's camp defends a top-down union that cuts deals with bosses and courts the far right in the name of "access."

Hooker's campaign calls for a member-driven union – one that rejects collaboration with anti-worker politicians and puts power back in the hands of the rank and file.

It's a choice between accommodation and transformation, between a union that adapts to the billionaire class and one that fights to defeat it. The outcome will echo far beyond the Teamsters – across every shop floor where workers are asking the same question: Whose side is our union on? #

NYC tenants fight billionaire land grab

By Stephen Millies

SLL photo: Stephen Millies

Residents of New York public housing and their allies are taking on big financial interests in a fight to save their homes, staging a march on Nov. 8.

Hundreds march against public housing demolition in NYC

The fight to save public housing brought people to the streets of New York City on Nov. 8. They gathered at three Manhattan locations – the Fulton, Elliott-Chelsea and Amsterdam houses – to stop urban removal.

These communities are home to thousands of people, including seniors and people with disabilities. Real estate tycoons want to make big bucks by tearing them down to build high-priced luxury apartments.

That's what the Related Companies is seeking to do with the Fulton and Elliott-Chelsea homes in the Chelsea neighborhood. The outfit's founder, Stephen Ross, who has a $17 billion stash, is determined to extend his Hudson Yards project along the west side of Manhattan.

Ross has already gotten $6 billion in government subsidies and wants $2 billion more for Hudson Yards, where the cheapest one-bedroom apartment rents for $4,500 per month. Among these handouts was the $3 billion spent by former mayor and fellow billionaire Michael Bloomberg to extend the No. 7 subway line to Hudson Yards.

A rally was held inside a courtyard at the Elliott-Chelsea homes. Talks were given in English, Spanish and Chinese.

Speakers included an elderly blind man who denounced the proposed tearing down of the seniors' building, the newest structure there. A woman fighting cancer described the harassment of tenants – which includes the pounding of doors – who are being urged to leave.

"This is so painful," she said, urging people to "don't sign the lease." Developers want tenants to sign away their Section 9 subsidized apartments – which protects them from being evicted – by offering a temporary 8 lease that can be canceled.

Dr. Jesse Fields reminded people of that grand old freedom song, "we shall not be moved." "Housing for people, not for profit!" was the message of Oliver from the Young Communist League.

Other groups and individuals helping to build the protest were the Parents to Improve Safe Transportation (PIST); trade unionists; the Party for Socialism and Liberation; and Workers World Party.

Marching on the billionaires and trillionaires

Folks from the Fulton Houses, Amsterdam Houses in Harlem and the Holmes / Isaacs Houses on the East River had already arrived. It was time to start marching up Ninth Avenue to Hudson Yards.

Manhattan's West Side was once filled with workplaces that employed thousands, including the biggest Nabisco cookie factory. Around 900,000 manufacturing jobs have been eliminated in New York City since 1958.

Thousands more were employed on the docks, whose jobs were destroyed by containerization. Now the area is being seized by real estate developers who are building housing for the well-to-do.

City officials have allowed public housing administered by the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) to deteriorate. A frightening example was the Oct. 1 partial collapse of a Mitchel Houses building in the Mott Haven neighborhood of the Bronx, which was probably caused by a gas explosion.

The ending rally was held across from the Related Companies H.Q. at Hudson Yards. People gathered in front of the financial octopus BlackRock, which controls over $13 trillion in assets.

That represents around $1,600 for every person on the planet. It's obscene that this fantastic amount of social wealth is controlled by a handful of power brokers. So is the trillion dollars being spent by the Pentagon on war, not for human needs?

Among those who spoke truth to power there were representatives from the Coalition to Protect Chinatown and the Lower East Side, who spoke in both Chinese and English. They described their successful struggle to protect the Bowery tenants.

Tenants from the Holmes / Isaacs Houses told of how they fought off attempts to seize their courtyards and playgrounds. That's what the authorities want to do with the basketball courts at the Fulton Houses.

Real estate interests consider these "infill" areas, where people can relax and enjoy themselves, to be wasted space that should be filled with luxury housing instead.

Johnnie Stevens of the Direct Action committee concluded by inviting people to join the informational picketing outside the HOU trailers. They're located on West 17th and 19th Streets and West 27th Street between 9th and 10th avenues.

Picketing is being done Mondays through Fridays, to encourage tenants to exercise their legal rights not to sign away their Section 8 subsidized apartments prematurely. Please sign up at tinyurl.com/DefendHome.

Organizers will distribute signs to hold and "know your rights" pamphlets to explain why nobody has to sign anything or even enter the trailers being operated by the developers. #

Marching for Mumia: a 12-day journey for justice

By Lallan Schoenstein

Activists will launch a 12-day March to Free Mumia Abu-Jamal on Nov. 28, walking from Philadelphia to SCI Mahanoy prison in Frackville, Pennsylvania. Their purpose is urgent: to demand medical care, dignity, and freedom for the world-renowned political prisoner.

Mumia Abu-Jamal, a former Black Panther and award-winning journalist, was framed for the 1981 killing of a Philadelphia police officer after a racist trial marked by falsified evidence, coerced witnesses, and judicial bias. For more than 40 years, he has exposed the injustice of mass incarceration from behind bars, becoming one of the most important political voices of his generation.

International human-rights organizations, including Amnesty International, have long condemned his conviction as a travesty of justice. He was once sentenced to death, but his sentence was later reduced to life without parole – a living death behind prison walls.

Now 71 years old, Mumia faces serious health problems. After months of public pressure, he received cataract surgery on his left eye in September. But he still needs surgery on his right eye and treatment for diabetic retinopathy, a condition that can cause blindness if untreated. Supporters call the deliberate delay elder abuse – another form of state violence against a political prisoner.

The march's rallying cries – Free Mumia Abu-Jamal, End Medical Neglect, End Elder Abuse – connect one man's struggle to the broader crisis of medical neglect and elder abuse of prisoners throughout the United States.

Organizing the 12-day route requires food, housing, transportation, medical care, and legal, security, and media support. A hybrid organizing meeting earlier this month at Philadelphia's Ethical Society drew veteran Free Mumia activists and new participants alike, determined to carry the struggle forward.

"We will never stop fighting for Mumia because he has never stopped fighting for us," said Mama Pam, speaking at a 2023 rally in Philadelphia.

When marchers reach the gates of SCI Mahanoy on Dec. 9, they will be carrying more than one man's cause. They will be marching against a system that jails the poor, silences dissent, and treats human life as disposable – and for the right to justice and freedom.

MARCH FOR MUMIA
UNITE TO FREE MUMIA
& ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS
NOV 28TH - DEC 9TH
PHILADELPHIA TO FRACKVILLE, PA
MARCH TO END ELDER ABUSE
MARCH TO END MEDICAL NEGLECT
MARCH TO FREE MUMIA
URGENT
Mumia Abu-Jamal is in imminent danger of permanent blindness. He requires urgent surgery and treatment for diabetic retinopathy. Every day of delay increases the risk of irreversible damage. We cannot allow the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections to "slow-walk" Mumia into blindness.
JOIN THE MARCH TO DEMAND
JUSTICE FOR OUR ELDERS (and an end to medical neglect)
JUSTICE FOR ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS (Free them all NOW!!!)
JUSTICE FOR MUMIA ABU-JAMAL (Bring Him Home NOW!!!)
FREE MUMIA! FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISINERS!
MarchforMumia@gmail.com | 862.240.6589
MarchforMumia.org

How to support the march to free Mumia

You don't have to walk the full 12 days to be part of this struggle. Organizers are calling for broad solidarity to make the march possible.

Ways to help include:

- Volunteer for logistics – including driving, food preparation, housing coordination, security, medical, and media teams.
- Donate to help cover marchers' supplies, lodging, and other logistical costs.
- Share updates on social media and help spread the call to free Mumia.
- Organize local solidarity events and teach-ins about Mumia's case and the fight against mass incarceration.

The march is coordinated by Free Mumia Abu-Jamal activists and allies from across the country.

An organizing meeting was be held on Nov. 3 at the Ethical Society, 1906 South Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia, with ongoing coordination online.

For updates, volunteer sign-ups, and donations, visit freemumia.com or follow @BringMumiaHome on social media.

"Until Mumia is free, none of us are free." #

Erasing Black History:
From Florida's classrooms to a cemetery in the Netherlands

By Lev Koufax

Donald Trump's war on Black history continues as the Netherlands American Cemetery Visitor Center quietly removed a memorial to Black U.S. soldiers who died in World War II. The move was made without announcement and with little attention from big corporate media. Only CNN and Newsweek covered the story. The New York Times, Fox News, MSNBC, the Washington Post, Bloomberg, the LA Times, ABC, and CBS have all been silent.

More than 174 Black U.S. soldiers are buried or memorialized at the Netherlands American Cemetery in the town of Margraten. These soldiers gave their lives fighting Nazi Germany in the service of a country – the United States – that did not recognize their basic civil and human rights at home. When Black soldiers returned to the U.S., they were met with Jim Crow and apartheid conditions.

Before it was removed, the exhibit "African American Servicemembers in WWII: Fighting on Two Fronts" detailed how Black soldiers enlisted en masse despite brutal systemic racism at home. Janice Wiggins, the widow of Black veteran Jefferson Wiggins, had to fight for the display in the first place. Her husband Jefferson – and hundreds of other Black soldiers in the U.S. Army – dug hundreds of the graves of U.S. soldiers killed in the Netherlands fighting the Nazis. When the cemetery opened its visitor center in 2023, none of the information or exhibits mentioned Black soldiers' contributions. After a prolonged struggle, the exhibit on Black soldiers opened in 2024. Less than a year later, it is gone.

The dismantling of the display comes at a time when the Trump administration is escalating its mission to erase the achievements of the Black community and hide the truth about racist oppression. On March 27 of this year, Donald Trump signed an executive order mandating an investigation into "un-American practices" at the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture. The removal of the Margraten exhibit occurred in this broader climate of repression. Janice Wiggins was not informed. She learned from two friends in October 2025 that her husband's legacy – and the legacy of so many Black soldiers – had been erased seven months earlier.

The war on Black history and the war on honest teaching about U.S. racism have been brewing for years. While the Trump administration has taken up the reins, this assault began in Florida's neo-fascist laboratory. In 2023, Gov. Ron DeSantis signed a law blocking African-American studies from the state's course offerings and requiring schools to teach that the Black community "benefited" from slavery. DeSantis repeated this absurd claim many times. Such a policy is especially outrageous in a state with Florida's brutal history of racism and genocide.

The Republican Party is not alone in its disdain for Black history or its attempts to minimize U.S. racism. When then-President Joe Biden spoke at the 100-year commemoration of the Tulsa Race Massacre of 1921, he refused to support the community's demand for reparations.

Having found success in its Florida experiment, the neo-fascist movement around Trump has now taken the war on Black history nationwide. The working class and the progressive movement must unite to fight back. To erase Black history is to erase the real history of U.S. capitalism – and to erase the proof that the working class can struggle, resist, and win. #

From Kaepernick to Bad Bunny:
NFL can't stop bowing to racism

By Gary Wilson

The NFL's choice of Puerto Rican superstar Bad Bunny to headline the Super Bowl LX halftime show should have been cause for celebration. Instead, it's a reminder that U.S. colonialism still dictates who gets to be on the biggest stage in this country.

The backlash from the right was immediate. Donald Trump called the selection "ridiculous." Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem threatened that ICE would "be all over" the stadium. Conservative pundits sneered that he "has no songs in English" and is "not an American." In reality, Bad Bunny – born Benito A. Martínez Ocasio – is a U.S. citizen from Puerto Rico, a colony Washington has ruled since 1898.

The NFL's answer to the backlash was equally revealing. Instead of defending its headliner, the league quietly booked British rocker Sting to headline a Super Bowl-branded "pre-halftime" concert in San Francisco. Tickets start at $750 – an expensive concession to soothe what one columnist called "whiny white tears."

It's not the first time the NFL has bowed to bigotry. When players like Colin Kaepernick protested police violence, the league punished dissent before pretending to make amends. Now, as it courts its fastest-growing audience – Latine fans – it's still trying to please both sides of a divide rooted in white supremacy. #

Puerto Rican superstar Bad Bunny will headline the Super Bowl LX halftime show despite racist backlash from U.S. politicians and pundits. His performance turns the world's biggest sports stage into a spotlight on empire and resistance.

While billionaires soar, SNAP funds vanish

By Gary Wilson

As SNAP benefits lapse amid the shutdown, millions turn to food banks to survive. In the world's richest country, hunger grows while billionaires grow richer.

Everyone knows the deck is stacked. The rich play by different rules – and they're the ones who wrote them. Every gain workers have fought for is being rolled back – wages, rights, and affordability – while billionaires grow richer by the hour.

And now, 40 million people face hunger as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) runs out of funds amid the government shutdown. Food banks across the country are swamped, trying to feed the same families the system has abandoned. In a country where billionaires measure their fortunes in hundreds of billions, tens of millions can't afford groceries.

A new report from Oxfam America, Unequal: The Rise of a New American Oligarchy, lays bare what millions already know from lived experience: The rich are not just getting richer – they're taking everything. The numbers confirm that U.S. capitalism has entered a new phase of concentration, a brazen revival of the Gilded Age, with wealth gushing upward in a torrent of accumulated profit and financial speculation.

The super-rich grew six times wealthier

While working-class families endured inflation, layoffs, and pandemic chaos, the top 10 U.S. billionaires saw their wealth increase by 526% since March 2020. Their combined fortunes multiplied sixfold in just five years.

Elon Musk alone ballooned from $33 billion to $469 billion, a 14-fold rise. These fortunes didn't grow from creating new value. They grew because billionaires claimed an ever-greater share of the surplus value produced by workers everywhere – the unpaid labor that is the foundation of all capitalist profit.

Behind all the talk of "innovation," the billionaire boom was built on cutting jobs, holding down wages, and demanding more for less. The so-called recovery didn't lift workers up – it left them struggling while the rich climbed higher.

$700 billion more for 10 men

In the last year alone, those same 10 billionaires pocketed another $700 billion. According to Oxfam, the policies of the second Trump administration "added rocket fuel to the nation's out-of-control inequality."

Abby Maxman, Oxfam's president, put it plainly:

"The new American oligarchy is here. Billionaires and mega-corporations are booming while working families struggle to afford housing, healthcare, and groceries."

But this isn't mere greed – it's a system designed to extract and concentrate wealth at the top. Through state power, tax law, and monopoly control, capital guarantees that the fruits of social labor flow upward. The "oligarchy" is not a political accident; it is capitalism functioning as designed.

The 987-to-1 divide

Between 1989 and 2022, the least wealthy household in the top 1% gained 987 times more wealth than the wealthiest household in the bottom 20%.

This didn't happen through production alone. The capitalist class has turned financial markets into engines of fictitious capital – paper wealth backed by speculation, not real value. Stocks, derivatives, and corporate bonds are claims on future profit, but they command real power over labor, housing, and resources today.

Decades of "upward redistribution" – tax cuts, deregulation, union-busting, and privatization – have ensured that more than 40% of the U.S. population now lives poor or low-income. The capitalist class has not merely accumulated wealth; it controls the means by which wealth itself is created, deciding what gets produced, who works, and who eats.

Who owns the U.S.?

The Oxfam data shows the real face of class power:

- The top 0.1% own 12.6% of total U.S. assets, the highest share since records began.
- That same 0.1% control 24% of the stock market.

Roughly 100,000 people now possess six times more wealth than 64 million working-class families combined. When ownership is this concentrated, the illusion of democracy is stripped away. Political power follows economic power – and the capitalist class owns both.

A new Gilded Age

The United States has officially surpassed the original Gilded Age. The richest 0.0001% – a few hundred individuals – now control a greater share of wealth than their robber-baron predecessors ever dreamed of.

As Elizabeth Wilkins of the Roosevelt Institute wrote, "Today, we are seeing the dark extremes of choosing inequality for 50 years."

But inequality is not "chosen" by the people. It's enforced – through law, through police, through war, and through the constant threat of unemployment. Today's oligarchs command global production chains, extracting value from workers in every corner of the world. Their fortunes depend less on building factories than on monopolizing technology, logistics, and data – the latest form of imperialist super-profits.

The U.S. ruling class has engineered a brazen revival of the Gilded Age, one that feeds on exploitation at home and empire abroad.

Capitalism by design

The rise of a new American oligarchy is not the result of chance or corruption. It is the normal operation of capitalism in its imperialist stage – a system driven to concentrate wealth and power in ever fewer hands. Every tax loophole, every subsidy, every anti-union law serves to preserve class rule.

Oxfam calls for higher taxes and antitrust action – reforms that might slightly slow the looting. But the capitalist state cannot legislate away its own class character. Real equality demands working-class power over production itself.

The data confirms what Marx wrote long ago: Capitalism "accumulates wealth at one pole" and "misery at the other." The only real alternative is an economy where the wealth created by workers serves the people – organized for human need, not private greed. #

346 dead – and no charges: How the system protects Boeing

By Lev Koufax

Family members of 737 MAX crash victims hold photos of their loved ones while demanding justice and accountability.

A system built to shield corporate power

It's official: Mass-casualty airplane manufacturer Boeing will face no criminal charges for the two 737 MAX jetliner crashes that killed 346 people. With this latest development, the U.S. "justice" system has provided yet another example of how, at the heart of U.S. capitalism, profit is prioritized over human life.

On Nov. 7, a Texas federal judge announced he would grant the Department of Justice's request to drop all criminal charges against Boeing. The decision caps a three-year saga dating back to the DOJ's 2021 deferred prosecution agreement (DPA) with the company. In exchange for fines and promises to strengthen its safety and ethics programs, Boeing effectively gets to walk away from the deaths of 346 people with minimal consequences.

Families denied justice

The victims' families have rightly argued that the DPA was unjust from the start, allowing a mega-corporation to buy its way out of prosecution. Their outrage only grew as Boeing's safety failures continued to mount, including the January 2024 Alaska Airlines door-plug blowout – an event so serious that the DOJ later concluded Boeing had breached the 2021 agreement. Yet even after that breach, Boeing is once again being allowed to pay its way out of accountability.

Just three months after the Alaska Airlines blowout, prominent whistleblower and aviation-safety advocate John Barnett was found dead under suspicious circumstances. Barnett had been testifying to federal authorities that Boeing was cutting corners and creating significant risks for pilots and passengers.

Bipartisan impunity for big capital

After all this death, danger, and deception, the justice system's priority remains the same: Protect the corporate executives whose decisions led to catastrophe. Boeing gets to mislead regulators, rush unsafe aircraft into service, smear pilots when disaster strikes, and walk away with a slap on the wrist.

It's worth noting that the government's gentle treatment of Boeing spans both the Biden and Trump administrations. While the Biden administration sought to enforce the DPA after the Alaska Airlines incident, it still signed the agreement in the first place – opening the door for Boeing to escape criminal charges. On matters of corporate power and the hoarding of wealth by the few, Democrats and Republicans are united.

The capitalist state at work

Under capitalism, elected officials do not represent the people; they represent big capital. Their role is not to restrain corporate greed but to enforce the rule of banks and mega-corporations like Boeing.

In "State and Revolution," Lenin described the capitalist state plainly:

"The state is an organ of class rule, an organ for the oppression of one class by another; it is the creation of 'order' which legalizes and perpetuates this oppression by moderating the conflict between classes."

This "moderation" – which shields the wealthy while sacrificing the working class – is on full display in the government's refusal to prosecute Boeing in exchange for what amounts to blood money. Boeing will pay its fines. Politicians will claim justice has been served. But what happens when Boeing's negligence and fraud take more lives?

The DPA is a disgrace. The dismissal of criminal charges is a disgrace. And Boeing's impunity is a disgrace. Working people are tired of backroom deals and token penalties. Corporations like Boeing – and the banks and investors behind them – must be dismantled and replaced with institutions that truly serve the people. #

Top commanders brief Trump on attack options

By Gary Wilson

On Nov. 12, senior U.S. military officials presented President Trump with updated options for direct military operations against Venezuela — including possible ground attacks, according to multiple sources familiar with closed-door meetings at the White House. Secretary of War Pete Hegseth, Joint Chiefs Chair Dan Caine, and other top commanders outlined potential plans for the coming days. No final decision has been announced, but Washington's direction is unmistakable.

The USS Gerald R. Ford carrier strike group — the most advanced in the U.S. fleet — entered the Southern Command theater on Nov. 11, joining destroyers, submarines, drones, and special operations units already positioned across the Caribbean. 14% of the U.S. Navy fleet is now operating in the region. For months, U.S. forces in the region have carried out lethal strikes on at least 21 boats, killing at least 80 people under the false pretext of "counter-narcotics." These attacks are the lead-in to a wider assault now on the table.

This buildup is not about drugs. It is about Venezuela, Cuba, Nicaragua, and Colombia — governments that maintain sovereignty over their resources, alliances, and political direction. For Washington, their independence is the problem. The Caribbean Basin is being treated as a single strategic corridor: a platform to project power, encircle adversaries, and secure control over energy reserves, shipping routes, and regional diplomacy.

Over recent months, the Pentagon has integrated naval, air, and special operations units throughout the region, expanding surveil-

Continued on page 9

Does capitalism work? Depends who you ask

By Lallan Schoenstein

Corporate summit at Trump Tower: Tech executives worth more than $3 trillion joined Donald Trump in New York, highlighting the tight grip of Big Tech and Wall Street on U.S. politics.

A heated discussion about capitalism arose during a recent family gathering. It began with a defense of the capitalist system: Capitalism is the only system that works, they said, because it is based on the incentive for personal gain; it supposedly fosters competition, innovation, and individual freedom, resulting in economic growth.

That's when I pointed out that a worker whose labor is exploited to create profit for the capitalists might see things from the other side. As Karl Marx explained: Under capitalism, workers are paid the value of their labor-power – what it costs to keep them able to work – while the value they actually produce exceeds this. The difference is surplus value, the basis of profit, which the capitalist appropriates.

Words like incentive, innovation, and personal enterprise cloak the real relationship between the boss and the worker. They reinforce capitalist propaganda and deserve to be examined in real time. Starting with:

Competition – the basic drive of capitalism, where every enterprise must outdo others simply to survive. To extract bigger profits, bosses intensify exploitation of workers while degrading products and the environment. The entrepreneurs who grow most powerful – by crushing their rivals – end up competing with capitalists in other countries, fueling global rivalries and war.

Innovation – Name a few of the biggest capitalists. Did Elon Musk, Warren Buffett, or Donald Trump rise through the genius of their own innovations? No. Let's be honest: Workers are the ones who constantly innovate, using their skills and experience to increase efficiency and develop technology. While individuals may contribute ideas, the real source of innovation is collective labor. The billionaire class accumulates wealth not through brilliance but through inheritance, ownership, and exploitation.

Freedom of choice and incentives – This argument is especially galling. How many people have the actual freedom to pursue their talents and reap the rewards? Those who manage to save enough to start a small business are often crushed by larger competitors. For the vast majority of people in capitalist countries, it is becoming harder than ever to secure decent employment. The system is failing to meet even basic human needs.

And the brutality of capitalism goes even deeper for those it has historically super-exploited. For people whose ancestors survived slavery in the U.S., or the genocide of Indigenous peoples, or who are forced to leave their home countries because of capitalist plunder and imperialist wars, the system's violence is ongoing.

The massive wealth of U.S. capitalism was built on this super-exploitation. The ruling class deliberately cultivates racism and bigotry to turn workers against each other, making it easier to erode the living standards of all. Today, figures like Donald Trump openly try to erase this grim history. His agenda is to roll back the gains won by the oppressed and their allies – all to enrich himself and his class.

So I asked: Why do capitalists believe they have the right to exploit the labor of others?

I was told that capitalists profit as a reward for "taking risks" and because they own the means of production – the factories, businesses, and equipment. But who produced those factories, businesses, and equipment? Workers did. Capital expropriates what we create – just as it does with the value we produce every day.

Shouldn't workers be able to use our labor to ensure everyone has healthy food, livable housing, health care, education – to meet all our needs? Shouldn't we be working for a better society, free of racism and bigotry? Shouldn't we be protecting the planet instead of serving the greed of a tiny minority?

We will do that when we reclaim what is ours – when workers collectively own and control the means of production. That's socialism. #

against Venezuela

Continued from page 8

lance, forward-operating capacity, and rapid-strike capability. Infrastructure upgrades in Puerto Rico and stepped-up coordination with right-wing governments signal preparation for a long-term imperialist operation, not a temporary show of force.

At the same time, Washington is increasing political and economic pressure on the governments it has surrounded. Venezuela, Cuba, and Nicaragua have long been in the crosshairs for refusing U.S. domination. Colombia has also broken with Washington on key issues, strengthening ties with its neighbors and resisting pressure to isolate Venezuela. Together, these governments represent a challenge to U.S. control over the Caribbean and northern South America.

Behind the buildup stands the familiar class of war profiteers. They do not set strategy, but they help steer it — and they profit from every escalation. Stephen Semler of the Security Policy Reform Institute notes that the "Big Five" weapons corporations — Lockheed Martin, Boeing, RTX, Northrop Grumman, and General Dynamics — already capture one-third of all Pentagon weapons contracts. Any confrontation involving Venezuela, Cuba, Nicaragua, or Colombia will trigger even larger budgets for the war industry. For weapons corporations, the Caribbean escalation isn't a crisis. It's a business plan.

The Caribbean is being turned into a launching pad for a new imperialist assault — one aimed at crushing sovereign governments and tightening U.S. control. Working people, from Venezuela to Puerto Rico to the United States, have nothing to gain from another U.S. war. The task before us is clear: Expose this war drive and mobilize to stop it before more lives are taken. #

Remembering Bob McCubbin: Revolutionary, Teacher, Comrade

Comrades, friends, and family gathered in San Diego to honor the life of Bob McCubbin, a lifelong revolutionary who dedicated over 60 years to the struggle for socialism and liberation. Bob died on August 20, 2025, at age 83, from injuries sustained when he was struck by a car while taking his daily walk through Balboa Park.

Bob McCubbin was a pioneering theorist of LGBTQ liberation, author of the groundbreaking 1976 work "The Gay Question: A Marxist Appraisal," and a tireless organizer who built branches of revolutionary organization with nothing but knowledge, passion, and commitment. From the Stonewall era through his final days organizing at San Diego Pride 2025, Bob never wavered in his belief that queer liberation was inseparable from the fight against capitalism and imperialism.

An English as a Second Language professor at Southwestern College for 17 years, Bob was equally at home in the classroom and on the picket line. He organized with the Committee Against Police Brutality, ANSWER Coalition, and the Coalition to Free Mumia and All Political Prisoners. He was a founding member of the Struggle for Socialism Party, following the tradition of Sam Marcy, Dorothy Ballan, and Vince Copeland.

Those who gathered to remember Bob spoke of his unwavering principles, his mentorship of young activists, his deep understanding of the national question, and his steadfast solidarity with all oppressed peoples. Above all, they celebrated his profound loyalty to the working class and its march toward revolution.

Selected Testimonies

John Parker, Harriet Tubman Center for Social Justice / Struggle for Socialism Party, Los Angeles

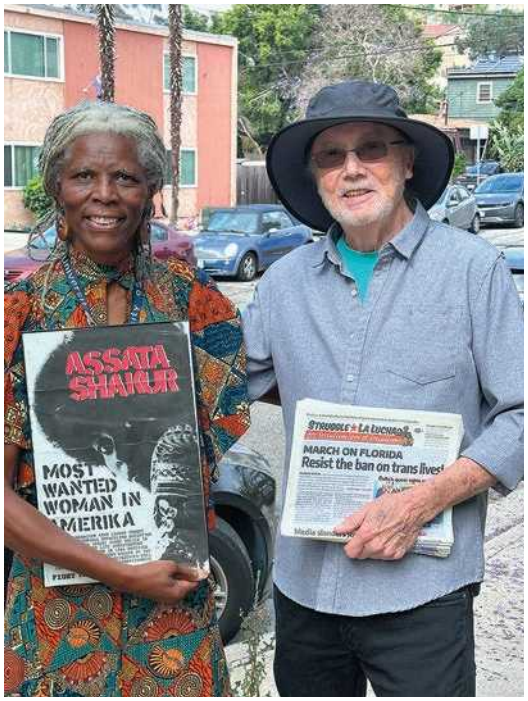
They left the photos up. They put up lots of pictures. We did a little altar and things like that—honoring Bob in the tradition of Dia de los Muertos, the Day of the Dead, when we remember those who have passed and celebrate their lives. It was just so beautiful – it brought tears to my eyes to know how the working class would come together. Indigenous, Black, Brown, oppressed, poor – come together and just coexist and become a powerful force that's going to fight against this system.

What does it take to build a branch, the local organizing unit of a revolutionary party? Does it take a large staff? Well, that helps. Does it take lots of money? Well, that definitely helps. But none of these things are required—not for Bob anyway. He created branches and cadres with only the tools of knowledge, passion, and commitment.

His foundation was a deep understanding of the national question—a question that has to be answered for the people in the global South and all those oppressed by especially U.S. imperialism. For Bob, this was key to unlocking understanding of all types of questions, especially those often ignored.

As the trans community is targeted today, as people in Latin America and the Caribbean are targeted by ICE, as Black and African people are targeted, and as the ruling class experiments with crushing our constitutional rights under Trump's bulldozer while the Democratic Party enables the push toward fascism – Bob's legacy is crucial.

What is the legacy of Bob's life that we inherit? It's a profound and unwavering loyalty to the working class and its inevitable march toward socialist revolution.



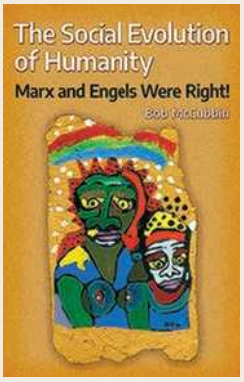
Gloria Verdieu, Coalition to Free Mumia / Struggle for Socialism Party, San Diego

When I visited Bob in the hospital after the accident and saw the extent of his injuries, I was confident he would recover. Bob had no memory of what happened. His concern was that we continued to work on making a better world for all. When I reminded him that he was in the hospital, his response was: "We have a lot of work to do."

He spoke of Demetrius DuBose, a football player killed by San Diego Police in 1999. He spoke of Mae Mallory and the Harlem Nine, who fought segregation in New York schools. Bob said we must bring working-class people together who fight for a better world. He believed that as workers, we have more in common than the system leads us to believe.

Bob touched the lives of many through bus trips to protests, meetings, conferences, rallies. He was a scholar, educator, author, and mentor who led by example. Bob not only envisioned a better world but motivated me and many others to fight for it – a socialist world.

I met Bob 25 years ago when I first learned about political prisoners. Today, I continue to organize with the Coalition to Free Mumia. Bob was my comrade, motivator, and true friend. He is physically gone, but his revolutionary spirit lives on inside of me.



The Social Evolution of Humanity

Marx and Engels were right! Bob McCubbin

Study of the evolution of humanity focuses on human social/sexual relations and, in particular, the changing social status of women. It offers a selection of scientific evidence that updates and augments the viewpoint expressed in Frederick Engels' masterful work, **'Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State.'**

McCubbin is the author of 'Roots of Lesbian and Gay Oppression: A Marxist View.' Published in 1976, during the early rise of the modern LGBTQ2S movement,

Paperback or Kindle tinyurl.com/vwarcv7

Memorial Held in San Diego, 2025

Dawn Miller, Union del Barrio / Association of Raza Educators

I first met Bob in the late '90s at an anti-police brutality march in downtown San Diego. Back then, the police would show up in full aggressive force. I remember watching officers physically intimidating Bob, bumping into him, pushing him, threatening to trample him. But Bob never flinched. He kept chanting, kept leading, fearless and unbowed, continuing with revolutionary courage as he did his entire life.

At the end of that march, he invited me to hear his close comrade Leslie Feinberg speak. That night transformed my life. Never before had I heard the truth laid out so clearly—that every form of oppression is rooted in capitalism, and that liberation for queer people and all oppressed people is inseparable from the fight for socialism.

In "The Gay Question," Bob named the roots of queer oppression in capitalism, showing how the system thrives by dividing workers. He explained not only the nature of our oppression but also the revolutionary strategies necessary to confront it. These works were not just theoretical—they were a call to action, a blueprint for revolutionary solidarity.

Bob fought as a young man to include protections for sexual minorities in his union contract. At a time when being openly gay could cost you your job and your life, Bob refused to hide. He built alliances between the gay liberation movement and the labor movement, proving that solidarity is our greatest weapon.

Maggie Vascassenno, Struggle for Socialism Party, Los Angeles

Bob was a friend. He was a mentor and an organizer. He was a gay man, a leader, a teacher, a theoretician, and a storyteller. Bob was always principled and disciplined, and he never wavered in his commitment to building a working-class movement for socialism. He loved our class and the struggle to free our class. He was a party member and organizer for over 60 years.

As an organizer, he was tireless. He was a full-time teacher, and for years every week he would pick up a bundle of our newspapers at the post office and distribute them to campuses, coffee shops, laundromats, and wherever workers gathered. He organized tons of people to get on the bus to travel to anti-war protests in the Bay Area and Los Angeles.

He was a writer and a voracious reader. He loved his books. His house was full of books—piles of books, books with lots of yellow sticky notes marking different pages and passages. He especially studied human social development and the class origins of women's and sexual oppression.

Into his 80s, he went to protests and meetings. He still passed out our newspaper and talked with young people about socialism and struggle. He was always looking for a new recruit.

I got to spend a lot of time with him over the last couple of years. I was around as he transitioned from his home of more than 30 years to an apartment in senior housing at St. Paul's Manor. He loved that the Manor was close to Balboa Park. He walked a mile or two there every morning and then went for his reward—a cafe mocha at some cafe in the park.

I remember once when we were trying to figure out a class schedule for our new candidate comrades, Bob interjected firmly: "Comrades, the best education is in the struggle."

That's our Bob. Live like Bob.

Lallan Schoenstein, Struggle-La Lucha Graphics Editor

Bob was a trusted comrade and a cherished friend for 50 years. He used scientific analysis based on Marxist methods to explore the basis of social oppressions. How did society reach a place where a few individuals can amass the wealth created by all working people to commit genocide? How can they create the lies to convince us that genocide is okay?

Bob challenged those feminists whose ideas are based on blaming "the patriarchy" and men for social relations that all people suffer under. Bob wrote about the root of social relations, starting with human history – millions of years when people depended on each other for survival. They needed each other to survive.

Now, more and more people are losing their food and shelter. The Supreme Court has just allowed Trump to freeze SNAP benefits. Capitalism in this recent epoch thrives on division.

Bob was a gay communist – words the capitalist culture tries to make dirty. Bob's life was spent fighting for socialism, for a world where every child could reach their full potential and be exactly who they are.

Gary Wilson, Struggle-La Lucha Managing Editor

I first met Bob in 1974 in Boston. A federal court had just ordered desegregation of Boston's public schools, and the city erupted in racist violence. School buses carrying Black children were being stoned. We were organizing the historic March Against Racism on December 14, 1974, which brought together 25,000 people.

Bob came up from New York City to help organize that march and stayed at my apartment. What struck me most was how deeply Bob understood that fighting racism was central—not secondary—to the struggle for liberation. For Bob, the fight against racism was inseparable from the fight for LGBTQ liberation, workers' rights, women's equality, and justice.

That spirit carried through everything he did, from his groundbreaking book "The Gay Question" to his lifelong organizing. When I think of Bob, I remember a teacher—someone

Continued on page 12

Mamdani's win: vote against racism, for class struggle

Continued from page 1

neighbors and most of TriBeCa, where homes average over $3 million. But money couldn't buy this election.

Despite $40 million in Super PAC spending against him, Mamdani won more than a million votes – in what analysts say was the city's largest turnout in 50 years.

The fight against racism is the fight for working-class power

The problem of bigotry, racism, and white supremacy – now visible in Gestapo-like ICE raids and the militarized occupation of cities, many led by Black mayors – must be confronted head-on.

This cancer has divided the working class since the twin crimes of slavery and Indigenous genocide. Every blow against racism today is a strike at the heart of capitalist exploitation.

A campaign powered by workers and youth

Mamdani's campaign spoke directly to the grinding realities of working-class life – championing hospital workers, cab drivers, bodega owners, sanitation crews, and delivery drivers who keep New York running. His platform affirmed the right to affordable housing, food, free transit, and child care.

It was these workers – joined by young people alienated by capitalism, enraged by genocide, worried about the climate crisis, and open to socialism – who powered his victory. The campaign became a vehicle for struggle, not just for votes.

Gaza solidarity fueled the movement

Mamdani's win would have been impossible without the thousands of protests against the U.S.-backed genocide in Gaza and the heroic resistance of the Palestinian people.

These mobilizations galvanized oppressed communities – especially Muslim voters – to stand up. In another era, even a whisper of sympathy for Palestine could end a political career. That Mamdani won while defying U.S. imperialism marks a seismic shift in political consciousness.

Wall Street won't surrender

The struggle doesn't end with an election. Wall Street and the state that defends it – including the 50,000-strong NYPD – will fight to contain this movement.

Already, backroom deals and media spin aim to "manage" Mamdani and lower expectations among the 90,000 mostly young volunteers who fueled his campaign.

Our task is to raise those expectations, deepen them, and transform them into a fighting movement.

National repercussions

This victory reverberates far beyond New York. It strengthens resistance to Trump's MAGA bloc and the billionaires it serves. It could energize the fight against ICE raids and push labor toward militant tactics – including the general strike.

We know the limits of bourgeois elections and the Democratic Party's tendency to co-opt radical energy and channel it toward imperialist war. But we also know this: Breakthroughs like Mamdani's can open doors to deeper class struggle.

Lenin's lesson on elections

Lenin argued that revolutionaries must engage in bourgeois elections – not to glorify them, but to reach and educate the masses where they are. To abstain is to abandon the field to capitalists and opportunists.

He insisted that revolutionaries contest power even in hostile institutions, exposing their limits while organizing for something beyond them.

That's the task before us now: to use this victory to connect every reform demand to the fight for a new system – one that dismantles capitalism, ends imperialist war, and builds socialism.

As The Internationale, the 19th Century socialist anthem sung by workers worldwide, declares: "We have been naught, we shall be all!"

Remembering Bob McCubbin

Continued from page 11

who showed by example that solidarity is at the heart of revolution. That's how I first knew him, and that's how I'll always think of him.

Matsemela Odom, African People's Socialist Party / Uhuru Movement

Some important principles I learned studying with Bob: fighting against spontaneity, fighting against opportunism. We know that opportunism is the willingness to forego the overall objectives of a struggle for an immediate gain. And Bob stood up against that.

When the Uhuru Movement was attacked in 2022, Bob was among the first here in San Diego to show his support, donating money and resources. Bob wasn't rich. He just poured all his resources into the struggle.

People from the queer community have made important advancements to the overall revolutionary struggle in understanding what family is. It's even more important to understand that Bob reproduced through revolutionary struggle. That's what he learned from his mentors, who went down to the worst parts of the South before the liberal left got into the civil rights struggle. It's around the national question that they learned to step out and challenge the opportunism built into white nationalist Americanism. That's what Bob and his generation importantly turned against.

Melinda Butterfield, Struggle for Socialism Party, New York City

A few years ago, when visiting Bob, I came out to him as trans. Bob was the first comrade I came out to. It felt like the right thing to do. I was nervous because of the weight of the thing. Bob listened thoughtfully as I explained my pronouns and plans for coming out. He was kind and supportive, just as I expected. That conversation was such an important moment for me.

Our late comrade Leslie Feinberg is lovingly regarded in the trans and queer movement worldwide. Bob was a mentor to Leslie. Bob was an example for Leslie. Bob helped pave the way for Leslie. They shared a hatred of racism, imperialism, and Zionism, and deep dedication to LGBTQ liberation.

In Bob's most recent book, "The Social Evolution of Humanity," he devoted a chapter to the materialist understanding of transgender people and trans liberation. What he didn't mention, in his characteristic modesty, was how his own work helped make Leslie's work possible, just as the work of Frederick Engels and August Bebel did for him.

Bob embodied Sam Marcy's phrase: "Modest in manner, bold in deed."

Continued on page 13

The global class war today

By Gary Wilson

With U.S. imperialist confrontations sharpening on multiple fronts – from the New Cold War against China and the proxy war in Ukraine to the genocide in Gaza and military threats against Venezuela – seeing how these battles link with the liberation struggles spreading across the African Sahel – from Mali to Burkina Faso and Niger – has never been more urgent.

These are not isolated crises. Each reflects the same global struggle between the imperialist powers and the oppressed peoples fighting for sovereignty, equality, and self-determination.

To fight against racism, sexism, transphobia, LGBTQIA oppression, and capitalist exploitation here, we need to connect with the struggles abroad – we need to see the world as one battlefield.

Sam Marcy provided that view in his theory of the global class war – developed in the wake of the 1949 Chinese Revolution, the Korean War, and the great wave of decolonization. These upheavals transformed the global balance of forces and confirmed Lenin's insight that the struggle between imperialism and the oppressed nations had become the decisive front of world politics. Marcy's framework still helps us make sense of today's world – and reminds us which side we're on.

Protester at a Free Palestine march holds a sign reading "No one is free until we are all free," expressing global working-class solidarity and resistance to imperialism.

Lenin's foundations

Lenin had already shown that imperialism created a single, interlinked global system – a world economy dominated by finance capital and monopolies, where a handful of oppressor nations exploited the labor and resources of the vast majority.

In "Imperialism: The Highest Stage of Capitalism" (1916), he demonstrated that this new stage fused banking and industrial capital into finance capital, turned capitalism's main drive from exporting goods to exporting capital, and made colonial conquest an essential part of the economic rivalry among imperialist powers.

From that point forward, class struggle could no longer be understood as separate national battles. Imperialism had created a global class war: workers in imperialist countries and the liberation struggles of colonized

Continued on page 14

Bob McCubbin

Continued from page 12

Scott Scheffer, Struggle for Socialism Party, Los Angeles

I visited Bob while he was in the hospital. When I came into the room, he couldn't remember my name, but he told the nurses, "I've known him since 1977."

In 1977, Bob came to Rochester to speak about "The Gay Question." I helped organize the meeting, and we had a chance to talk. It was all political – he was explaining the different forms of oppression under capitalism.

After learning from Bob and Leslie Feinberg's writings, I realized there's nothing natural about bigotry. There's nothing about homophobia that's natural. It's inherited under capitalism. If you read Bob's books, that leads you to understand that the struggle against sexual oppression, against racism, against misogyny—all of that is struggling against things that originated under capitalism.

Bob's work explaining the different historical stages showed that each social system came into being because it fit the needs of production at the time, and when it became outdated, it was time for a new social system.

Thank you, Bob McCubbin, for helping me understand that sexually oppressed people are real, and that every struggle we are part of is because of capitalism, and we have to bury capitalism.

Forest, Party for Socialism and Liberation / ANSWER Coalition

I stand here today in solidarity, in mourning, and in celebration of a dedicated, passionate, principled man. Bob McCubbin lived and breathed for the movement. He led by example, and he will continue to move people to action.

On behalf of the Party for Socialism and Liberation and the ANSWER Coalition, I extend our warmest embrace. We need more people like Bob – people who are ahead of their time, who can look backward at history with clarity, analyze the current moment with sincerity, and decide to do something about it.

Bob McCubbin knew what it meant to be a comrade and showed us how to walk in that way. We're stronger today because of Bob, and we see with more clarity today because of Bob.

Sharon Black, Struggle for Socialism Party, Baltimore

People in Cuba knew about Bob's writings and were inspired by them. There was going to be a new definition of what family is in Cuba—progressive and amazing. We were planning to go there to do a book signing, and Bob was going to come. I was so sorry that he couldn't make the trip. His work had international reach and showed how revolutionary theory can inspire movements across borders. Bob's dedication to building solidarity across all struggles, from the Black Panther Party to Cuba to the fight for LGBTQ liberation, exemplified what it means to be an internationalist revolutionary.

Bob McCubbin, presente!

A second memorial will be held in New York City in early spring 2025.

The global class war today

Continued from page 13

nations were now fighting the same enemy – the system of finance capital and imperialist domination.

The Communist International under Lenin captured this new reality by updating the Communist Manifesto's call to read: "Workers and oppressed peoples of the world, unite!"

It made clear that workers in the imperialist countries and the peoples of the oppressed nations share one fight against imperialist domination.

Just as important was Lenin's work on the national question, especially "The Right of Nations to Self-Determination" (1914). He argued that the fight of oppressed nations against imperialist domination was objectively revolutionary, regardless of the class composition of their leadership. Each victory of a colonized or semi-colonized people struck a direct blow against the imperialist system as a whole.

The right of nations to self-determination was not an abstract slogan but a concrete weapon against imperialist rule. Lenin understood that genuine independence required breaking not only the grip of foreign imperialism but also the power of local capitalist collaborators who profit from it.

Lenin also showed how super-profits from the colonies allowed the ruling class of the imperialist countries to "bribe" an upper layer of the working class, creating a social base for opportunism and reformism. Lenin called this layer a "labor aristocracy."

This analysis explained why revolutions were likely to break out first in the "weakest links" of the imperialist chain, rather than in the most advanced capitalist countries.

At the Communist International, Lenin stressed that communists in the imperialist centers had a special duty to support the liberation struggles of colonized peoples, even when led by moderate non-aligned forces.

In short, Lenin uncovered the global structure of capitalism – and therefore the global character of the class struggle itself.

Marcy's development of the framework

Sam Marcy took this Leninist insight – the global nature of imperialism and the global character of class struggle – and developed it into a guide for revolutionary strategy in the post–World War II world.

Lenin revealed how imperialism worked; Marcy took those lessons and applied them to the battles of the mid- and late-20th century: the global class war was not a metaphor but a living struggle between the imperialist powers, led by the United States, and the oppressed nations – at home and abroad – united with the working peoples of the world.

Marcy recognized that the rise of socialist states, the national liberation movements sweeping Asia, Africa, and Latin America, and the uprisings against racism, inequality, and imperialist war inside the imperialist countries were all fronts of the same world conflict.

He emphasized that workers in the imperialist countries bore a special responsibility to fight against their own ruling class's wars, sanctions, and occupations – embodied in Lenin's slogan: "The main enemy is in your own country – your own ruling class."

By bringing Lenin's ideas into the age of neocolonialism and nuclear threat, Marcy developed the concept of global class war as the central dynamic of the postwar world.

This framework transformed Lenin's theoretical discovery into a method of political practice – linking every struggle, whether in the workplace or in the streets, to the worldwide fight against imperialism.

From theory to political practice

This analysis shaped a practical program of revolutionary organizing.

It meant active involvement in strikes and workplace struggles and militant participation in movements against systemic racism, police violence, mass incarceration, and for Black liberation and self-determination.

It meant standing with struggles for women's equality, trans rights and LGBTQIA liberation, immigrant rights, Indigenous sovereignty, disability justice, and environmental survival – understanding all of them as connected struggles in the same global fight against imperialism.

The fight against racism, sexism, and all forms of oppression inside the imperialist countries was inseparable from the anti-imperialist fight abroad.

These systems of oppression keep capitalist power in place at home – and work hand in hand with imperialism abroad.

Marcy's outlook also demanded unwavering opposition to one's own government's wars and interventions.

Support for states and movements resisting U.S. domination – from socialist Cuba to national-liberation fronts in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East – was not charity but solidarity in a common war against the imperialist system itself.

Imperialism and resistance in our time

Marcy's framework, grounded in Leninism and shaped by the great struggles of the 20th century, still guides revolutionaries today.

The world Marcy described has only intensified: more billionaires, more bombs, and more lies to keep the workers of the world divided.

From Gaza to Venezuela, from the Sahel to the streets of New York, the same forces are colliding: the drive of U.S.-led imperialism to maintain world domination, and the determination of oppressed peoples to break free.

The unity of domestic and international struggle – and the recognition that the main enemy is at home – remain the foundation of true internationalism.

For Marcy, the global class war was not a contest of blocs or nations but of classes. It was a dialectical struggle – constantly shifting with the contradictions of imperialism – internationalism, not geopolitics, and solidarity rooted in working-class unity, not allegiance to states or ruling classes.

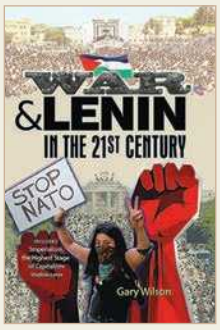
The global class war is not an abstraction – it is the daily fight between imperialism and humanity. It is the recognition that our struggle is bound up with the struggles of workers and oppressed peoples everywhere.

Every struggle – for housing, for land, for liberation – is part of the global class war.

Sam Marcy's insight was simple but revolutionary: The front lines of the class struggle encircle the globe.

Our task is to join them – and win.

Gary Wilson, a managing editor at Struggle-La Lucha, worked closely with Sam Marcy in the 1980s and 1990s, transcribing and editing his political writings.



WAR & LENIN in the 21st Century

Included in Gary Wilson's new book is VI Lenin's pamphlet:

'Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism'

Vladimir Lenin, the revolutionary leader of the Soviet Union and a key contributor to Marxist theory, wrote **"Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism"** in 1916, more than a century ago. It remains an influential critique of imperialism. As in Lenin's time, the conclusion is that socialist revolution will end imperialist war, enabling workers to meet their own needs.

Paperback or kindle at tinyurl.com/LeninAndWar

With carriers off Venezuela, a call to action to stop a new war

By Sharon Black

Across the United States, antiwar organizations are rallying to a new Call to Action to stop another regime-change war. The demand is straightforward: stop the U.S. military buildup. A week of coordinated protests is planned for Nov. 15–23, with rapid-response actions ready if U.S. forces escalate.

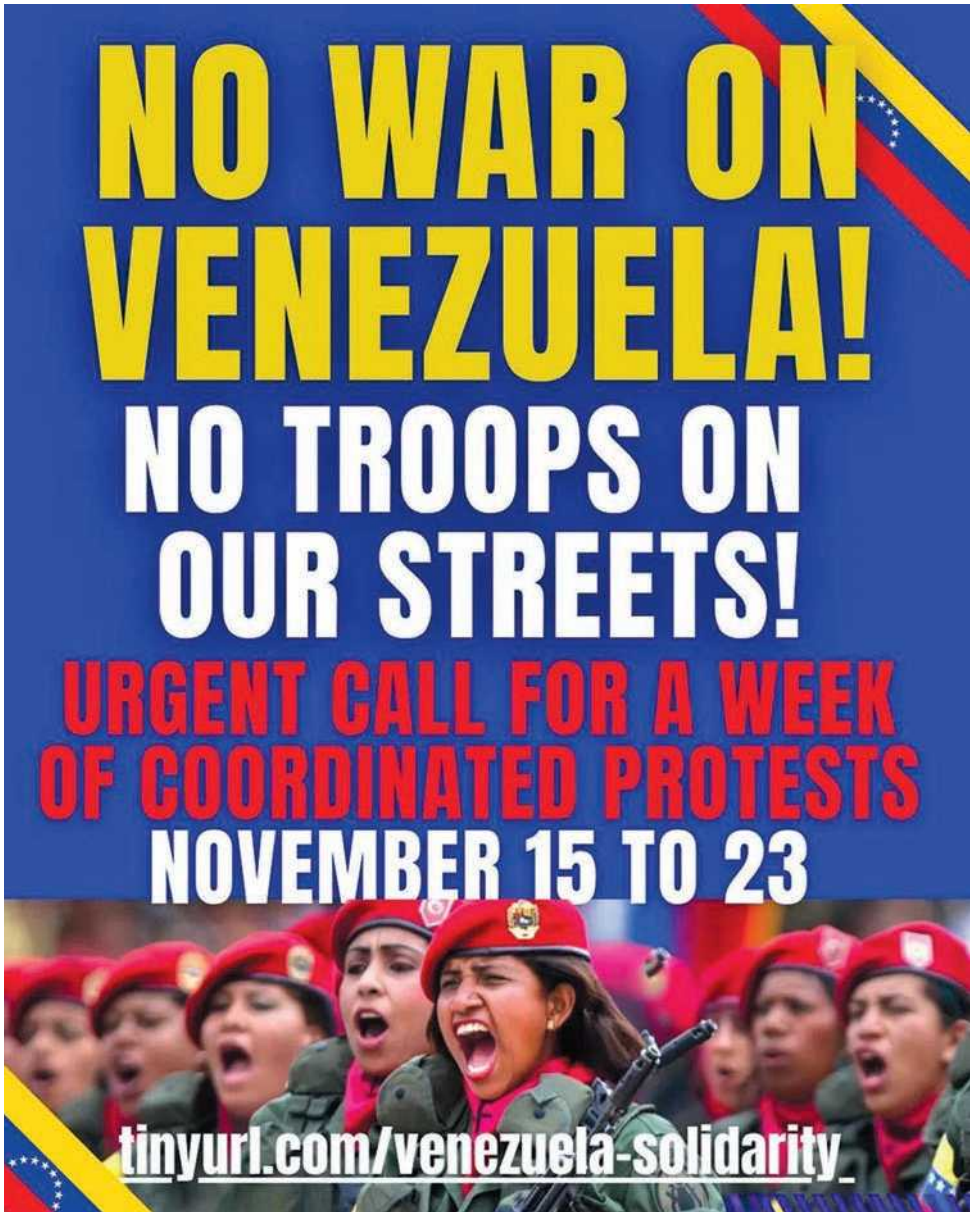
In late October, the Pentagon launched one of the largest U.S. military deployments to the Caribbean in a generation. Now, aircraft carriers, bombers, and thousands of troops patrol waters close to Venezuela. This show of force could spark a war.

A show of force

The scale of the operation is staggering. At its center is the USS Gerald R. Ford, the most advanced aircraft carrier ever built, flanked by guided-missile destroyers and a nuclear submarine. Ten thousand troops have joined the deployment, along with F-35 stealth jets, B-1B bombers flying from Texas and North Dakota, and P-8 Poseidon surveillance planes patrolling the Caribbean.

In Puerto Rico, the U.S. military has reopened the Roosevelt Roads naval complex – closed since 2004. It has also turned civilian airports in Puerto Rico and St. Croix into military platforms. Ammunition depots, mobile control towers, and runway expansions all signal a longer-term presence. What the Pentagon calls "forward operating logistics" is really a plan for a permanent military presence.

These are the preparations for war.


NO WAR ON VENEZUELA!
NO TROOPS ON OUR STREETS!
URGENT CALL FOR A WEEK OF COORDINATED PROTESTS
NOVEMBER 15 TO 23
tinyurl.com/venezuela-solidarity

The false pretext and the real prize

Don't be fooled by the "war on drugs" pretext. It's a recycled lie, hiding the true aim of toppling governments and controlling resources.

Aides to Secretary of State Marco Rubio have openly called for removing Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro and Colombia's Gustavo Petro. Former President Trump said the quiet part out loud after his first term: "When I left, Venezuela was ready to collapse. We would have taken all the oil," he said, pointing to Venezuela's vast reserves – the largest in the world – as the ultimate prize.

The antiwar fightback

A grassroots uprising is building. A coalition of over 30 organizations – including the United National Antiwar Coalition, Code Pink, Veterans For Peace, the Black Alliance for Peace, the Struggle for Socialism Party, and the International Action Center – is taking to the streets. The target: the war machine. The actions: rallies, teach-ins, and direct protests at weapons makers and federal buildings.

The message is simple: the war abroad is theft at home. Each day, the $18 million spent on the armada is money stolen from housing, health care, and food. "The same system that bombs abroad cuts food stamps at home," one organizer said.

The conclusion is inescapable: to stop this war, we must confront the imperialist system that wages it – at home and abroad.

For more information, go to tinyurl.com/venezuela-solidarity

Cuba's Queer Rights Revolution

LOVE IS THE LAW

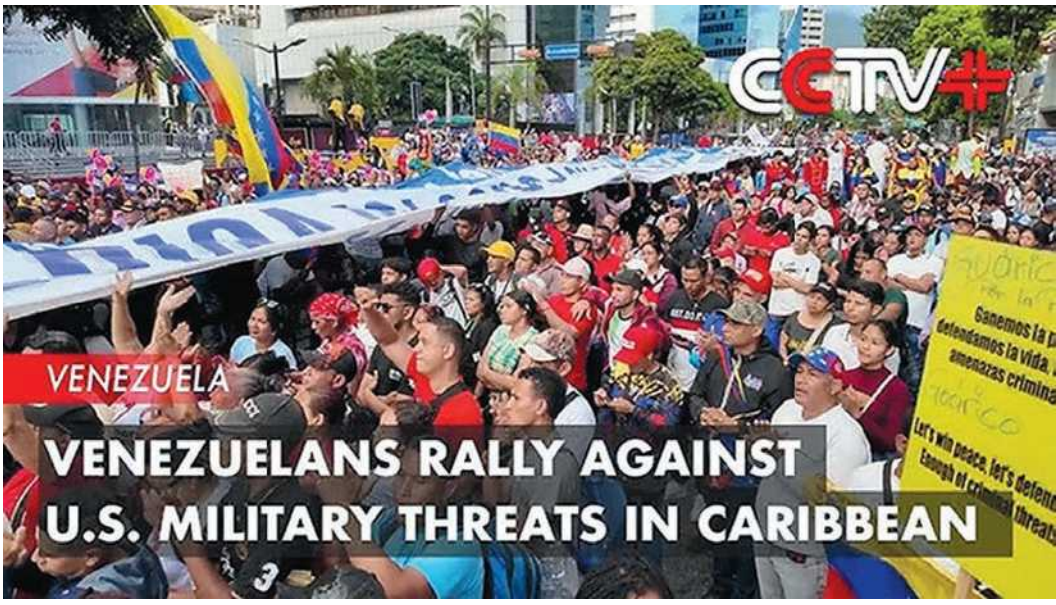
Includes reports from:

- Cenesex director Mariela Castro Espín
- A transmasculine Cuban activist
- A LGBTQ+ delegation who went to Cuba to learn about new Families Code
- Leslie Feinberg's **Rainbow Solidarity in Defense of Cuba**

tinyurl.com/Cuba-LoveisLaw
tinyurl.com/Read-LOVEistheLAW

Pentagon confirms 'decapitation strikes' for Venezuela as armada builds

By Gary Wilson



Screenshot from YouTube / CCTV Video News Agency

In Caracas, thousands marched on Oct. 6 to denounce U.S. aggression in the Caribbean and affirm Venezuela's right to sovereignty, peace, and self-determination.

An immense naval and air armada – the largest in the Caribbean in a generation – is gathering off the coast of Venezuela. The Pentagon calls it a "regional security deployment." But it looks, sounds, and moves like a war.

What Washington is building is not merely a show of force; it is a forward posture aimed at breaking the Bolivarian Republic's resistance and installing a pliant, pro-U.S. order in Caracas. Regime change is not an accidental byproduct of this mobilization – it is a central objective.

Regime change at the center of the operation

Reporting in the Wall Street Journal and the Miami Herald has confirmed what observers and Venezuelan officials have long warned: The Pentagon and the White House have compiled target lists inside Venezuela and discussed so-called "decapitation strikes" meant to remove the country's leadership.

The deployment functions as both psychological warfare and military readiness. Its purpose is to intimidate Venezuelan officers, fracture loyalty within the armed forces, and present a fait accompli that weaker hands might accept rather than resist.

As Christopher Hernandez-Roy, a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in Washington, put it, the whole show "is designed to scare the pants off the Maduro regime."

Put another way: The U.S. hopes to frighten generals into turning on their government – or to have the firepower ready if intimidation fails. This is classic imperialist practice: destabilize from the outside while waiting for fractures from within.

A massive force on Venezuela's doorstep

At the center of the operation is the USS Gerald R. Ford, the newest and costliest carrier ever built. With its strike group and support elements, the Ford brings nearly 10,000 personnel to the theater. It is accompanied by multiple guided-missile destroyers, a nuclear submarine, and the MV Ocean Trader – a floating Special Forces hub capable of launching helicopters and amphibious teams.

Air power has been mobilized on a continental scale. F-35 stealth fighters operate from bases in Florida and Puerto Rico; B-1B bombers conduct long-range patrols from airfields in Texas and North Dakota; and P-8 Poseidon surveillance aircraft fly near-daily intelligence sorties over the Caribbean. The logistics and command architecture assembled here would support sustained air and sea strikes across northern South America.

Even the ground is being remade for war. The Roosevelt Roads naval complex in Puerto Rico – shuttered since 2004 – is being revived as a launch point for regional operations. Civilian airports in Puerto Rico and St. Croix are being militarized with new ammunition depots, mobile air-traffic towers, and expanded runways, signaling an intention to sustain permanent power projection in the hemisphere.

This is not a drill. It is a forward operating network.

Threats to sovereignty across the region

Venezuelan officials have condemned the deployments as an act of aggression. President Nicolás Maduro warned that the Trump administration is "fabricating a new eternal war" against Venezuela. Latin American governments – from Caracas to Havana, Managua, Bogotá, and across the Caribbean – view the armada as a direct threat to regional sovereignty.

Cuba, which has withstood more than 60 years of U.S. blockades and invasion attempts, denounced the mobilization as part of Washington's escalating campaign to strangle independent nations of the hemisphere. The Cuban government warned that the buildup "revives the darkest traditions of gunboat diplomacy."

Nicaragua, a historic target of U.S. intervention and sanctions, has likewise condemned the escalation. President Daniel Ortega said it represents "a threat not only to Venezuela, but to all of Latin America that refuses to bow

Continued on page 17

CHINA Celebrating 75 years of liberation

October 1, 2024, marks the 75th anniversary of China's transformative revolution, which liberated the nation from feudal oppression and imperialist control. Today, China stands as a global scientific powerhouse, boasting achievements in pollution reduction, and space exploration. China has made significant strides in healthcare, education, and sports.

This book aims to illuminate the growing dangers posed by a potential U.S. war against China and to reveal the real enemies of the working class.

https://tinyurl.com/USWarChina

Continued from page 16

to the empire," describing the buildup as a U.S. attempt to "topple governments" in the region, according to a report by Al-Mayadeen English.

Colombian President Gustavo Petro has called the U.S. presence a violation of Latin American autonomy, declaring, "The aggression is against all of Latin America and the Caribbean," in remarks reported by Reuters. Caribbean leaders fear any pretext – real or manufactured – could ignite a wider conflict.

Control over Venezuela's vast oil reserves remains an obvious motive. U.S. strategists have long sought to bring those resources back under imperialist control. When the 2019 attempt to install U.S.-aligned proxy Juan Guaidó failed, Washington turned to sanctions, diplomatic isolation, and now overt militarization.

Guaidó's own 2019 operation was aided by Los Rastrojos, a Colombian narco-paramilitary group tied to drug trafficking along the border. Photographs published by Colombian and international media showed Guaidó posing with members of the gang who helped him cross into Colombia during the U.S.-backed "humanitarian aid" stunt. The episode exposed how Washington's coup project relied on criminal networks at the heart of the regional drug trade.

The new deployments mark the next stage in that same campaign: If political and economic pressure fail, open coercion will follow.

The costs of empire

The human and financial toll is already severe. Operating a carrier group and long-range bomber sorties costs at least $18 million per day – more than $600 million since the deployment began. That figure represents billions diverted toward domination while tens of millions at home face cutbacks in food benefits, housing, and health care.

Violence has followed the deployment. At least 14 U.S. air and naval strikes in the Caribbean and Pacific have killed some 61 people – many unidentified – after being labeled by the Pentagon as "hostile." Families on several islands insist the dead were fishermen, not combatants.

Volker Türk, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, condemned the attacks, stating:

"These attacks – and their mounting human cost – are unacceptable. The U.S. must halt such attacks and take all measures necessary to prevent the extrajudicial killing of people aboard these boats." (Al Jazeera)

These are not isolated tragedies. They are the predictable product of a military posture that treats entire waters and peoples as battlefields in a campaign to reassert empire. #

People of the United States: Listen to Maduro

By Lev Koufax

In what CNN described as an exclusive conversation during a mass rally in Caracas, Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro issued a direct appeal to the working class of the United States.

Maduro called for an end to Washington's foreign wars, saying: "No more endless wars. No more unjust wars. No more Libya. No more Afghanistan."

When asked by CNN's Stefano Pozzebon whether he had anything to say to U.S. President Donald Trump, Maduro answered simply: "Yes, peace. Yes, peace."

These remarks come from a leader whom much of the U.S. corporate media regularly slanders as a dictator.

A dangerous escalation

According to CBS News, U.S. forces have carried out at least 20 strikes in international waters in the Caribbean since September, destroying 21 vessels and killing at least 80 people. A United Nations official has described these killings as extrajudicial assassinations.

This pattern echoes the kinds of interventions that brought catastrophe to Libya and Afghanistan. Maduro's warning is a reminder of how quickly such escalations can deepen.

Why people in the U.S. should pay attention

Maduro's message was aimed at people in the United States – especially working people, who are already struggling with rising costs, low wages, and economic insecurity.

Wars are always justified in the name of "national interest," but it is working-class communities who bear the burden: through cuts to social programs, higher military spending, and the diversion of resources away from housing, health care, schools, and basic public needs.

People in the United States are one of the forces capable of pushing back against a new war drive. History shows that mass protests and organized antiwar movements have made a difference. Early, organized opposition has slowed or stopped interventions before – and it can make a difference again.

A call for peace

As the U.S. expands military operations in the Caribbean, the need for a broad, inclusive antiwar movement becomes more urgent.

Maduro's appeal is a reminder that the path to peace depends on people acting before a new war takes deeper root.

There is still time to prevent the kind of destruction the U.S. brought to Libya and Afghanistan – but only if people in the United States say no to war and no to any escalation against Venezuela now. #

NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING Thurs ❖ Nov 27, 2025

12:00 Noon COLE'S HILL
(above Plymouth Rock) **Plymouth, MA**
Solidarity with Indigenous struggles throughout the world! From Turtle Island to Palestine, Colonialism is a Crime!
United American Indians of New England
(decolonizing since 1970) info@uaine.org

The Gaza ceasefire isn't – Washington helps the war go on

By Gary Wilson

Nov. 14 – A month has passed since the latest ceasefire was declared in Gaza, yet Israeli forces continue attacking Palestinian neighborhoods from Khan Younis to Rafah. The Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) have repeatedly violated the agreement, enforcing the siege as tightly as ever. Food and medicine are still blocked, starvation is still being used as a weapon, and Palestinians continue to be killed even as world headlines speak of a "truce."

Washington echoes the language of restraint while continuing to arm the assault. The genocide has not paused – it has simply been repackaged.

Washington has long treated Israel as its "unsinkable aircraft carrier" in West Asia, a key platform for projecting U.S. power and protecting corporate interests. The ongoing assault on Gaza is another chapter in that strategy. Behind the talk of de-escalation is a stark reality: continued attacks, deepening siege, expanding U.S. involvement, and a war economy that profits from Palestinian suffering.

The 'ceasefire' is being violated every day

The ceasefire announced on Oct. 10 was never honored in practice. Since then, the IOF has continued launching airstrikes, drone attacks, and artillery fire across Gaza. Israeli operations during this supposed truce have killed 271 Palestinians and injured 622. In the first month alone, at least 242 Palestinians were killed.

As Francesca Albanese, the UN's special rapporteur on human rights in the occupied Palestinian territories, put it: "Ceasefire according to Israel = 'you cease, I fire.'"

This pattern extends beyond Gaza. In Lebanon – where a ceasefire has stood for a year – Israel has carried out more than 500 strikes on the south and the Bekaa Valley, killing over 300 people. The term "ceasefire" provides a political shield while the attacks continue.

And while the world is told the situation is stabilizing, Washington is quietly expanding its direct role in the occupation.

Washington is deepening its military presence

Even as U.S. officials claim they will not put "boots on the ground in Gaza," documents and reports suggest Washington is considering a major expansion of its military presence near the enclave. In early November, Israeli sources reported plans for a $500 million installation to house several thousand troops as part of an international "stabilization force." Bloomberg reported that the U.S. Navy circulated internal requests for cost estimates on a temporary base supporting 10,000 personnel.

Palestinians clear rubble after an Israeli airstrike leveled a home on Oct. 29, underscoring that the assault continues during the so-called ceasefire.
Photo: Omar Ashtawy / APA images

Though CENTCOM denied reports of a confirmed base, the U.S. has already deployed 200 troops to the Civil-Military Coordination Center (CMCC) in Kiryat Gat – a foothold that represents a significant escalation of U.S. involvement in the occupation.

This is not a break with past policy. Every U.S. administration – Republican or Democrat – has strengthened Israel's military operations. A permanent base would deepen U.S. involvement in the siege and give Washington more direct control over the occupation.

As the U.S. lays the groundwork for a long-term military presence, the IOF continues another form of warfare each day – one carried out through hunger.

Starvation is being used as a weapon

The humanitarian crisis in Gaza is not incidental. It reflects a deliberate long-term strategy. Since 2007, Israel's blockade has been structured to "enforce surrender through starvation." Under the current ceasefire, this policy has intensified.

Since Oct. 10, Israeli authorities have blocked 76% of the agreed-upon humanitarian aid. More than 350 basic food items – including eggs, meat, fresh vegetables, and legumes – have been prohibited, while non-essential items were allowed in.

Aya Abu Qamar, a mother of three, describes the daily struggle:

"I haven't found eggs, chicken, or cheese since food supplies started entering the Gaza Strip. All I see are chocolate, snacks, and instant coffee. These aren't our daily needs. We're looking for something to keep our children alive."

By the end of October, 463 Palestinians – including 157 children – had died from malnutrition.

This is not a separate crisis from the military assault. The siege, the starvation, and the bombardment are part of the same strategy – and part of the same set of economic interests.

War profits drive the assault

Gaza's coastline holds natural gas reserves valued at up to $4 billion per year. Control of these resources has long been identified as a strategic objective underlying the assault on Gaza.

Meanwhile, U.S. arms manufacturers are profiting from the genocide. Wall Street giants BlackRock, Vanguard, and State Street are major shareholders in the largest U.S. weapons firms: Raytheon Technologies (RTX), Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, General Dynamics, and Boeing. Every missile, bomb, drone, and tank part used against Gaza yields direct profit.

As Raytheon CEO Greg Hayes said:

"Across the entire Raytheon portfolio, you're going to see a benefit of this restocking. … on top of what we think is going to be an increase in the [Defense Department] budget."

The genocide in Gaza is not only political – it is profitable.

The endgame for Gaza

In February 2025, President Trump openly proposed that the U.S. "take over" Gaza and transform it into the "Riviera of the Middle East" – but only after forcibly relocating its 2 million Palestinian residents to other countries. The proposal, which was condemned internationally as ethnic cleansing, reveals the ultimate vision behind the destruction: complete dispossession followed by redevelopment for profit.

The genocide is ongoing

A month into the declared ceasefire, Israel continues to bomb homes, block food and medicine, and starve an entire population. Washington continues to fund and arm the assault while preparing for a deeper military role. Corporations continue to profit from every weapon dropped.

The facts are unavoidable: The ceasefire is not real. The siege continues. The genocide continues. #

National Network on Cuba reaffirms actions in solidarity

By Cheryl LaBash

Charleston, S.C., Nov. 11 – More than 100 National Network on Cuba delegates and friends rededicated their solidarity with socialist Cuba during its annual fall meeting held in Charleston, South Carolina, November 7 to 9. The meeting, themed "Unity in Action," was hosted by the Lowcountry Action Committee, one of more than 50 engaged member organizations of the NNOC.

ICAP president highlights challenges and priorities

In a video message, the president of the NNOC's Cuban partner, the Cuban Institute for Friendship with the Peoples (ICAP), Fernando González Llort, outlined the challenges faced by the peoples of both the U.S. and Cuba as they confront the global crisis. He described the extensive damage caused by the recent hurricane and the effectiveness of Cuba's civil defense system, designed under Fidel Castro to preserve life.

González Llort emphasized that the greatest obstacle to recovery is the criminal economic, commercial, and financial blockade imposed by the U.S. government. While the U.S. media machine conceals the political and legal framework of the blockade, he noted that people in the United States continue to demonstrate consistency and solidarity.

"The work you do from the United States is essential. Every local resolution passed, every caravan, every brigade, every piece of communication that dismantles the lies, is a decisive blow against the policy of suffocation," he said.

He outlined Cuba's key priorities:

- Intensify the campaign to denounce the blockade and Cuba's inclusion on the List of State Sponsors of Terrorism.
- Develop an effective solidarity response that channels medical supplies, construction materials, and essential equipment to Cuba.
- Promote travel to Cuba as a political act that reveals the truth about the island.
- Strengthen national and inter-regional alliances to confront and overcome the blockade.

NNOC leadership calls for strategic action

During opening remarks, NNOC Co-Chair Onyesonwu Chatoyer emphasized the urgent importance of the Network's work. "We are not here to merely resist. We are here to build a unified, strategic, and disciplined force that can win," she said. From delivering medicine to forming brigades to passing resolutions, the NNOC's efforts contribute directly to building a world beyond imperialism.

New campaign: Let Cuban athletes compete

The gathering unanimously endorsed a new international effort: Let Cuban Athletes Compete in the 2028 Olympics! Grant visas now for qualifying games of the 2028 Olympics and Paralympics. The campaign will launch later this month.

The effort responds to a report from the Cuban Sports Institute documenting 81 incidents this year affecting Cuban athletes, coaches, and officials due to U.S. visa denials. Prensa Latina has reported blocked participation for athletes in table tennis, basketball, track and field, soccer, triathlon, fencing, volleyball, and softball, as well as Cuban Olympic Committee officials who have been unable to attend Panam Sports meetings.

Workshops build national and international solidarity

Experiences from the 9th Continental Meeting in Solidarity with Cuba in Mexico City shaped the weekend's organizing. Four workshops focused on expanding and strengthening solidarity work.

Growing NNOC Action for Cuba Committees

One workshop examined a national growth strategy through Action for Cuba Committees, including mobilizing returning brigadistas and enhancing communication and resource-sharing. Participants discussed ongoing material-aid work – hurricane relief donations through the Peoples Forum, the Saving Lives Campaign, the Hatuey Project providing pediatric medicines, and coordinated container shipments to Cuba organized by LA Hands Off Cuba with the Pan American Medical Association and Not Just Tourists.

Photos Bill Hackwell

Building support for ending the blockade

Another workshop, We Are Resolute: Building and Documenting Support for Ending the Blockade, focused on resolution campaigns. Participants proposed adding a "what to do after a resolution is passed" resource to NNOC.org.

More than 120 resolutions have already been adopted by elected bodies and labor organizations, representing more than 60 million U.S. residents. Ypsilanti, Michigan, and Chicago, Illinois, are among the most recent jurisdictions calling for Cuba's removal from the State Sponsors of Terrorism list. The Coalition of Black Trade Unionists reaffirmed its

Continued on page 20

El gobierno impide acceso a información pública

Por Berta Joubert-Ceci

Una colonia se sostiene esclavizada con la ayuda de los administradores locales. Estos son los achichincles que reprimen directamente al pueblo que se levanta en contra del imperio invasor. Y lo hacen de varias formas. Una de estas, es por la vía dizque "legal", proponiendo y adoptando leyes que faciliten la dominación, o que impidan la resistencia.

Pues esta semana, en una maniobra oscura y obscena, la Cámara de Representantes adoptó un proyecto de ley presentado por el Senado para prevenir que el pueblo tenga libre acceso a documentos que de por sí son públicos.

En un país donde nos están robando nuestros recursos naturales; destruyendo nuestras costas para construir mansiones lujosas para millonarios extranjeros; privatizando los servicios básicos de salud, de energía, esenciales para la sobrevivencia. Donde el encarecimiento de la canasta básica, del acceso a viviendas asequibles, y de todo lo que se requiere para una vida digna, está empujando a la gente a la miseria, al exilio y hasta al suicidio y la violencia generalizada. Es difícil vivir en este país. Y esto sucede para privilegiar a unas capas altas de la sociedad, pero sobre todo, a multimillonarios y mafias extranjeras que impulsan el vaciamiento del archipiélago, para sustituirnos y hacer de nuestro país un paraíso fiscal y residencial para ellos.

Y cuando se busca información para exponer estos crímenes del estado, lo que se encuentra es una pared impenetrable. Centros de noticias han tenido que demandar al gobierno para acceder a informaciones.

Manifestación en Puerto Rico.

Pero ahora, con este nuevo proyecto, será casi imposible saber sus mafiosas y corruptas acciones. Han sustituido la "Ley de Transparencia y Procedimiento Expedito para el Acceso a la Información Pública" del 2019, que se aprobó para establecer una política pública para facilitar el acceso a la información pública, con una que establece barreras impenetrables. Sin vistas públicas, porque aunque se convocaron, no aceptaron a la mayoría de las organizaciones y personas interesadas en testificar en contra de la medida. La aprobaron como ladrones, en la noche, al final de una sesión, con votaciones aceleradas. Y aunque dicen que se discutirá pronto, sus acciones reflejan lo obvio, que su propósito es prevenir el acceso.

Pero la última palabra la tendrá el pueblo con sus acciones, ya sea más temprano o más tarde, el pueblo vencerá.

Desde Puerto Rico, para Radio Clarín de Colombia, les habló Berta Joubert-Ceci

Nat'l Network on Cuba reaffirms actions in solidarity

Continued from page 19

support with a resolution at its 2025 International Convention.

Coordinating media work

A third workshop emphasized strengthening media coordination – a major theme of the Mexico conference, which called for collaboration instead of duplication.

New members and renewed leadership

Two new organizations – Philly4Cuba and Colorado Cuba Sí – were voted in as NNOC members. Two of the Network's five co-chair positions were renewed. Representatives of the Cuban Embassy brought greetings and took part in a panel discussion.

Honoring Palestine and the history of Charleston

The weekend's agenda included solidarity with Palestine and acknowledged the deep historical significance of Charleston's coastal landscape.

The final session took place on the Atlantic shore in a powerful and emotional conclusion. Drummers set the rhythm in tribute to Assata Shakur, who died recently – a free woman in Cuba, while participants honored the memory of ancestors brought to this coastline on slave ships.

For a local perspective, see: Charleston, SC: National Network on Cuba Fall Meeting.

Source: National Network on Cuba (NNOC)

"Nunca será suficiente lo que se diga en torno al cinismo de la política de EU, que incluye a Cuba en la lista de países terroristas, aplica la Ley asesina de Ajuste Cubano con carácter exclusivo a nuestra nación, y la bloquea económicamente".

– Presidente Fidel Castro
el 3 de noviembre de 2009

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Fidel Castro, el 3 de noviembre de 2009.

STRUGGLE ★ LA LUCHA
for Socialism | por el Socialismo
Vol. 8, No. 21 Nov. 17, 2025 Vol. 8, Núm. 21 17 de noviembre 2025